



# Quarterly CTIP Newsletter

## Agency Highlights

### A Special Operations Forces Perspective on Slavery

*Contributed by: Captain Sarah Melville, U.S. Army*

Three organizations joined forces to take a novel approach to Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) training. Initiated inside the U.S. Army Civil Affairs Training Pipeline at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, partnerships formed with the [University of Nottingham's Rights Lab](#) and the [Pacific Disaster Center](#) to develop Special Operations Forces (SOF) Countering Human Trafficking courses.



The Rights Lab is the world's largest group of modern slavery researchers. Their contributions to the SOF courses include regional- and country-specific human trafficking trends and case studies, geopolitical impacts, and new data on what human trafficking within conflict has looked like over the last three decades. The Pacific Disaster Center is an applied research center managed by the University of Hawaii. Their researchers provide analysis of the relationships between the prevalence of slavery and: a country's resilience, potential for violent conflict, gender inequality, and gender empowerment.

The SOF training goes in depth around *why* an understanding of human trafficking and its prevention is necessary for the security of service members and their missions. For example, the training explores how an understanding of human trafficking and its contributions to overall instability and conflict can mitigate risks to mission and increase combat effectiveness.

The training focuses on each geographic combatant command. Zooming out, the research begins with the region and explores the types of human trafficking and slavery prevalent. U.S. law acknowledges two forms of trafficking in persons: [sex trafficking and forced labor](#). However, within these broader categories several different forms of exploitation exist. Common types of forced labor include child soldiers, forced begging, and labor exploitation and common forms of sex trafficking include forced marriage and commercial sexual exploitation. The ways these forms of slavery manifest within each region and specific countries can be drastically different.

The Asia and Pacific regions account for the [greatest number of slavery victims overall and account for 68% of the world's victims of forced labor by state authorities](#). Over a million people from the Uyghur population have been trapped in government facilities in Northwest China and there are over a dozen known prison camps in North Korea. In Africa, while state-enforced slavery is not common, [forced marriage is, with nearly five victims per every 1,000 people](#). Forced marriage occurs in both times of peace and conflict. During peacetime, young girls are often forced to marry older men in return for money given to their families. During conflict, rebel forces and violent extremist organizations like Boko Haram will enslave women as forced brides for their soldiers.

A thorough understanding of what human trafficking looks like can also reveal more information about a deployment location. The Pacific Disaster Center assesses with high confidence that the higher the prevalence of human trafficking, the lower a country's resilience. A country's resilience is defined by its ability to withstand internal and external shocks such as conflict or natural disaster and is impacted by both vulnerabilities (such as corruption, poverty, lack of education) and coping capacity (such as the nation's ability to provide services and infrastructure). Therefore, human trafficking is a destabilizing factor that exacerbates a nation's existing vulnerabilities.

The Pacific Disaster Center also assesses with medium-high confidence that an increase in violent conflict potential will also increase the prevalence of the enslaved and trafficked population. Rights Lab research expands upon this through the analysis of [171 wars and conflicts from 1989 to 2016](#). Their study identifies that in 90 percent of modern wars, slavery and human trafficking were present.

After the regional aspects and correlations are taught, the training then zooms into country profiles to analyze what factors may contribute to a higher prevalence of slavery and a country's lower resilience. For example, Burkina Faso is on the [Trafficking in Persons Report](#) Tier 2 Watch List and an estimated [4.5 for every 1,000 people are enslaved](#). Their resilience score according to the Pacific Disaster Center index is .369 (where a score of one is deemed as resilient as possible). The main factors contributing to this low resilience score include access to information, governance, and economic capacity. Burkina Faso has one of the lowest adult literacy rates in the world, has been experiencing ongoing violence since 2016, and is a low-income country with limited natural resources.

As shown through the training, the presence of slavery is not the only cause for a country's lack of resiliency or violent conflict potential; however, the greater the prevalence of slavery, the worse these issues are. Recognizing indicators of slavery can, therefore, prompt service members to dig into other destabilizing factors, as slavery is often closely intertwined with these factors and may exacerbate them. For example, violent extremist organizations often use slavery to support their operations.

As the SOF Countering Human Trafficking training teaches, a countering human trafficking perspective can assist the military both directly and indirectly. In missions like countering violent extremism, understanding slavery can enable service members to better understand and fight their enemy. Indirectly, understanding human trafficking and its links to other destabilizing factors can enable service members to better understand the areas they deploy. With this training, service members will be better prepared for the difficulties of their deployments and will help ensure mission success.

\*Unless otherwise annotated all sources are from the research within the SOF Countering Human Trafficking training

*The views expressed here are the author's and do not represent those of the U.S. Army or the Department of Defense. No endorsement is implied.*

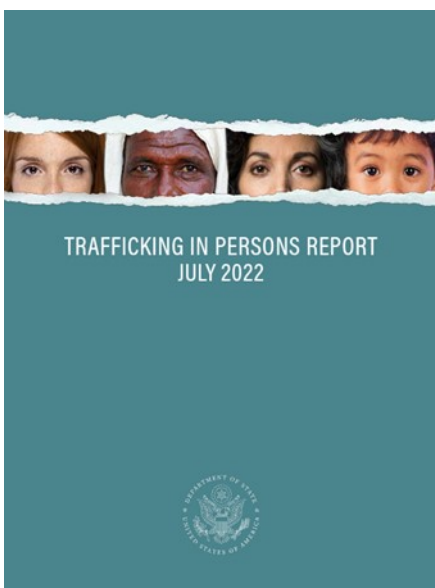
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## Featured Articles

### **Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report** *Contributed by: CTIP PMO*

Are you deploying to another country or going on vacation and want to know about trafficking in persons (TIP) in that country? There is a comprehensive resource to provide that information.

Every year the Department of State (DOS) releases the [Trafficking in Persons Report](#) (TIP Report), which is the U.S. Government's principal diplomatic tool to engage foreign governments on human trafficking and the comprehensive resource of global governmental anti-trafficking efforts. [The 109th Congress first mandated the report's publication in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000](#) (Public Law 106-386), requiring the Secretary of State to produce the annual report. The report is [closely monitored by Congress, foreign governments, the media, advocacy groups, and other foreign policy observers](#).



The Department of Defense Combating Trafficking in Persons Program Management Office (CTIP PMO) contributes data for the report annually, which it collects in the annual CTIP Self-Assessment from DoD Components and Services. The CTIP PMO submits information required by law (22 U.S.C. §7103(d)(7)) to the Department of Justice for the annual U.S. Attorney General’s Report to Congress, which DOS uses along with other information DOS requests to assist in the preparation of the United States section of the TIP Report.

The 2022 TIP Report contains information on country tier placement (Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 2 Watchlist, and Tier 3) and regional maps, narratives for each country, international law enforcement statistics, Child Soldier Prevention Act List of governments that recruit or use child soldiers, and six special interest topics. The topics highlighted this year are:

- **Survivor Engagement in the Anti-Trafficking Field: History, Lessons Learned, and Looking Forward** – discusses and emphasizes the importance of meaningful survivor engagement.
- **Forced Labor: The Hidden Cost of China’s Belt and Road Initiative** - discusses how the Belt and Road Initiative affiliated nations need to conduct oversight that will protect nationals of the People’s Republic of China and host country nationals that are employed in this initiative against forced labor.
- **Forced Labor and the Clean Energy Transition: Finding A Responsible Way Forward** - discusses how Cobalt and Silicon metals are important in the production of clean energy technologies but the use of forced labor in the acquisition of these materials taints the supply chains.
- **The Climate Crisis: Exacerbating Vulnerabilities and the Looming Increase of Exploitation** - discusses how climate change affects vulnerable populations who are more likely to experience climate change impacts and are likely to become more vulnerable to exploitation.
- **Promising Practices in Data Collection, Management, and Dissemination** - discusses five important aspects to consider when approaching data infrastructures. It highlights two countries that have shown innovation in Human Trafficking Data Collection, Management and Dissemination.
- **Linking Efforts to Combat Corruption and Trafficking in Persons**- Discusses how corruption within governments exacerbate issues of human trafficking.

#### TIP Report Tiers

**Tier 1:** Countries whose governments fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.

**Tier 2:** Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

**Tier 2 Watch List:** Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

**Tier 3:** Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so.

The TIP Report is a useful tool for DoD personnel, especially deploying military members, to learn more about human trafficking where they are stationed. For example, Kuwait was downgraded to the Tier 2 Watch List this year, in part due to investigating fewer alleged TIP crimes, prosecuting and convicting fewer traffickers, and identifying fewer victims than in previous years. In Kuwait, traffickers exploit foreign workers in the service, sanitation, construction, transportation, hospitality, and domestic service sectors. Raising awareness about TIP is an important step in preventing TIP.



## Interagency Activities

In June 2022, the Department of Homeland Security released the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act Strategy, “[Strategy to Prevent the Importation of Goods Mined, Produced, Or Manufactured With Forced Labor in the People’s Republic of China](#).” The strategy supports the enforcement of Section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. § 1307) to prevent the importation into the United States of goods mined, produced, or manufactured wholly or in part with forced labor in the People’s Republic of China.



## DoD CTIP Program Office Updates

For more information,  
visit :

<http://ctip.defense.gov>

The CTIP PMO held its Quarterly CTIP Task Force Meeting on July 13, 2022. During the meeting the U.S. Army CTIP POC discussed his information collection process for the annual CTIP Self-Assessment and a representative from United States Special Operations Command and research partners discussed the role of Civil Affairs in CTIP as well as the Special Operations Forces Countering Human Trafficking training.

The CTIP PMO conducted in-person site visits to the U.S. Central Command, U.S. Special Operations Command, and U.S. Southern Command. As part of the CTIP PMO’s ongoing Internal Controls Program, the office schedules meetings annually with select Combatant Commands and Services.

### OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

Have ideas for the next issue? Submit your suggestions and agency highlights to [dodctip@mail.mil](mailto:dodctip@mail.mil).

The CTIP PMO represented the DoD in the Senior Policy Operating Group meeting. The CTIP PMO gave updates on the new design for the CTIP website; the training and awareness project focus for FY 2023, adding 4-6 human trafficking survivor stories to the Survivor Voices page, and developing a PSA to raise awareness in the DoD resale community about human trafficking.

The Government Accountability Office closed five of the six Recommendations pertaining to the DoD on the GAO Report 21-546, “[Human Trafficking: DoD Should Address Weaknesses in Oversight of Contractors and Reporting of Investigations Related to Contracts](#).” The estimated completion date of Recommendation Six is October 31, 2022.

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CTIP PROGRAM OFFICE

4800 Mark Center Dr.  
Suite 06J25  
Alexandria, VA 22350

Phone: (571) 372-1963  
e-mail: [dodctip@mail.mil](mailto:dodctip@mail.mil)



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## Upcoming Events

- The next CTIP Quarterly Task Force meeting will be October 12, 2022.
- The annual CTIP Self-Assessment is due to the CTIP PMO by November 30, 2022.